



*City of Arts & Innovation*

## News Release

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### **Opening Night Gala Announced for 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Riverside International Film Festival**

**Riverside, California** – Film and entertainment enthusiasts are lining up for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Riverside International Film Festival (“RIFF”) which runs from April 20 – 29. The Festival kicks off April 20 with the **Opening Night Gala** to be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts in downtown Riverside. Following the Gala from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., fans will have a chance to meet the cast and watch the screening of *Queens of Country* at the Riverside Fox Theater.

Dr. Harki Dhillon, Founder and President of the Riverside International Film Festival commented on the Festival’s success by saying, “...I continue to be impressed with this community’s love of film and the arts. The Festival has taken on a life of its own and expanded because of the energy and creativity of those that are part of it.”

*The Opening Night Gala will celebrate celebrity guests and judges, including Hollywood Glamour Fashion & Costume Designer Randy McLaughlin of Jeran Design, he has been a fashion designer for motion pictures, stage and television for three decades. McLaughlin a two-time Emmy nominated designer will be honored with a lifetime achievement award and fashion design enthusiasts will be treated to a display of some of his collection including The Famous Hollywood Graffiti Gown. The Hollywood Graffiti Gown consists of over 350 female stars who have lent their name to be part of the Hollywood Graffiti Gown, all hand beaded in Platinum Beads on Black German Velvet. The Gown was designed to bring awareness to HIV/AIDS and will be making a stop in Riverside as part of its final world tour before being auctioned off for Numerous HIV/AIDS charities."*

Riverside Mayor Ronald O. Loveridge applauded the Festival’s organizers, “RIFF is organized by members of this community to showcase film as an important part of the Riverside arts network. We are proud to welcome the international film community with features from some of the industry's most innovative filmmakers and up-and-coming directors”.

RIFF 2012 has been attracting many global entries from France, Germany, China, Korea, Japan and India and from all over the US. Tickets and more information are available at [www.riversidefilmfest.org](http://www.riversidefilmfest.org).

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